



PATENT  
Atty. Dkt. No. MRKS/0012

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attre Application of:  
Pietras, et al.

Serial No.: 09/509,073

Confirmation No.: 5424

Filed: August 22, 2000

For: An Apparatus for  
Facilitating the Connection  
of Tubulars Using a Top  
Drive

Box AF  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

§§§§§  
Group Art Unit: 3672  
§§§§§  
Examiner: J. Hawkins  
§§§§§

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GROUP 3600

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on  
February 14, 2002 with the United States Postal Service as  
First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant  
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

14 Feb 02  
Date

Weller B. Patterson  
Signature

**SECOND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 14, 2001**

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 14, 2001, having a shortened statutory period extended two-months to expire on February 14, 2002, and in response to the Advisory Action dated February 5, 2002, please enter the following amendments and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Enclosed please find a substitute specification to correct the objections and organizational informalities as requested by the Examiner. A marked up version showing all the changes is also enclosed. No new matter has been introduced.